

In the Claims

Please amend the claims presented during the international phase as follows.

Applicant presents a full set of claims showing markups of the claims with insertions and deletions indicated by underlining (or double bracketing) and strikethrough text, respectively.

1. (Original) Nucleic acid, in essentially isolated form, said nucleic acid encoding one of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs 1, 6 and/or 8, or an analog, variant, allele, ortholog, part and/or fragment of one of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOS: 1, 6 and/or 8.
2. (Original) Nucleic acid, in essentially isolated form, said nucleic acid comprising one of the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 7 and/or 9, or a mutant, variant, allele, analog, ortholog, part and/or fragment thereof.
3. (Currently amended) Genetic construct, comprising the nucleic acid of claim 1 ~~and/or of claim 2~~, and optionally one or more further elements of genetic constructs known per se.
4. (Currently amended) Host cell or host organism, transformed with and/or containing a nucleic acid according to claim 1 ~~and/or claim 2 and/or a genetic construct according to claim 3~~.
5. (Currently amended) Host cell or host organism, ~~(capable of) expressing and/or producing~~ that expresses and/or produces a protein or polypeptide comprising one of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 6 and/or 8, or an analog, variant, allele, analog, ortholog, part and/or fragment thereof.
6. (Currently amended) Method for producing one of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 6 and/or 8, or an analog, variant, allele, ortholog, part and/or fragment thereof, said method comprising at least the steps of:
 - expressing a nucleic acid according to claim 1 ~~and/or 2~~ in a suitable host cell or host organism; and optionally
 - isolating the amino acid sequence thus expressed.

7. (Currently amended) Method for producing one of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOS: 1, 6 and/or 8, or an analog, variant, allele, ortholog, part and/or fragment thereof, said method comprising at least the steps of:

maintaining and/or cultivating a host cell or host organism according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ under conditions such that said host cell or host organism expresses or produces one of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOS: 1, 6 and/or 8, or an analog, variant, allele, ortholog, part and/or fragment thereof; and optionally

isolating the amino acid sequence thus expressed/produced.

8. (Original) Protein or polypeptide, in essentially isolated form, said protein or polypeptide comprising one of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOS: 1, 6 and/or 8, or an analog, variant, allele, ortholog, part and/or fragment thereof.

9. (Currently amended) Method for generating a signal that is representative for the interaction of a protein or polypeptide of claim 8 with a test chemical, said method at least comprising the steps of:

contacting a protein or polypeptide of claim 8, ~~or a host cell or host organism of claim 4 or 5~~, with said test chemical, in such a way that a signal may be generated that is representative for the interaction between said test chemical and said protein or polypeptide; and optionally

detecting the signal that may thus be generated.

10. (Currently amended) Method for identifying a modulator of a protein or polypeptide of claim 8, for example from a set or library of test chemicals, said method at least comprising the steps of:

contacting a protein or polypeptide of claim 8, ~~or a host cell or host organism of claim 4 or 5~~, with said test chemical, in such a way that a signal may be generated that is representative for the interaction between said test chemical and said protein or polypeptide; and optionally

detecting the signal that may thus be generated, said signal identifying a modulator of said protein or polypeptide ~~amino acid sequence~~.

11.-16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) Antibody against a protein or polypeptide according to claim 8.
18. (New) Method for generating a signal that is representative for the interaction of a protein or polypeptide with a test chemical, said method at least comprising the steps of:
 - contacting a host cell or host organism of claim 5 with said test chemical, in such a way that a signal may be generated that is representative for the interaction between said test chemical and said expressed and/or produced protein or polypeptide; and optionally
 - detecting the signal that may thus be generated.
19. (New) Method for identifying a modulator of a protein or polypeptide, for example from a set or library of test chemicals, said method at least comprising the steps of:
 - contacting a host cell or host organism of claim 5 with said test chemical, in such a way that a signal may be generated that is representative for the interaction between said test chemical and said expressed and/or produced protein or polypeptide; and optionally
 - detecting the signal that may thus be generated, said signal identifying a modulator of said protein or polypeptide.